

Athens denies report of offer to PLO

ATHENS (R) — Greece has flatly denied a Beirut press report at the government had told the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) it was ready to accept some PLO commandos on a Greek island. Chief government spokesman Dimitrios Maroudas described the report as "completely inaccurate." Official sources said the government's position had not changed since last weekend, when it was prepared to provide ships to help evacuate Palestinian commandos if PLO leader Yasser Arafat approved, but that there was no prospect of any Palestinians settling in Greece. The government also said last weekend Greece would be ready to contribute a small unit of not more than 300 men to a peacekeeping force in Lebanon if the United States, the Soviet Union, Lebanon, Israel and the PLO agreed.

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ESSON: Palestinian self-determination will lead to a state

IS (R) — French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson said Saturday Palestinian self-determination would lead naturally to a state in territory occupied by Israel. French comments in recent years have shown that only Palestinian self-determination can bring genuine peace and stability to the Middle East. "Self-determination of the Palestinian people will lead either to a state or to a state," Mr. Cheysson told a radio interviewer. "I can imagine a Palestinian state that is the centre of his was not there where he came from," he added, adding: "Where there was, which is to say, occupied territories. That's ours."

TO releases detainees

EGYPT (R) — The Egyptian government Saturday ordered the release of 453 detainees from among 1,600 people held since September for allegedly stirring up sectarian strife. An Interior Ministry statement said released did not endanger country's security. It said the decision was made with President Hosni Mubarak's instructions to all not found guilty of terrorism. The government has been releasing small groups held since the assassination of President Anwar Sadat October. Those released last day included lawyer Ahmad El Islamouli, father of First Court Khalid Islamouli who was executed in April for his part in the assassination.

ERALS call sanctions Israel

EXPORT, England (R) — Britain's Liberal Party urged the peace community Saturday to impose trade sanctions on Israel if it withdrew from occupied areas. The party's policy-making council recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PL) as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and asked for it to be involved in future peace negotiations. A considerable advance on its Liberal policy and marks an increase of sympathy for Palestinian cause and criticism of Prime Minister Menachem Begin's Israeli regime," Lord Lewin, the Liberal defence spokesman, said. The motion was passed by a four-to-one majority in the Liberal Party council.

ISH Rail s inconclusive

DON (R) — Leaders of Britain drivers failed to agree day night on whether to call national strike and accept a formula worked out by trade union chiefs. The five of the Associated Societies Locomotive Engineers and men (ASLEF) adjourned at making a decision and is to meet again Sunday, an ASLEF spokesman said. (Earlier on page 7)

ISH propaganda f loses job

RSAW (R) — Stefanowski has lost his powerful Poland's party propaganda after a fierce struggle at the Communist Party, party spokesman said. Mr. Olszowski has partly blamed the failure of wild party credibility among public seven months after the party takeover in response to challenge of the now-ended Solidarity union.

OUTI foreign minister dies

OUTI (R) — The foreigner of Djibouti, Idriss Farah, died in the American in Paris Saturday, a presidential statement said. Mr. Farah was made agriculture after the country's independence from France in 1977 as then interior minister for years.

Jordan Times

An independent English political daily publication of the Jordan Press Foundation

جريدة الأردن تنشر يومياً مطبوعة إنجليزية "رأي"

Jordan Times

Begin sets deadline for PLO

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel said Saturday Palestinian commandos had less than a month to get out of Beirut and that it was willing to offer them conditional "temporary sanctuary." Addressing a rally called to express support for government policies in Lebanon, Prime Minister Menachem Begin said: "This week we heard from the United States that the political negotiations on removing the terrorists from Beirut haven't got 30 days."

Israel charges PLO violated truce

Beirut talks continue

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Talks aimed at peacefully ending Israel's month-old siege of West Beirut appeared to be inching forward again Saturday as a ceasefire around the city held for sixth day running.

Israeli officials have reacted coolly to the idea, but Israeli Foreign Minister David Kimche has travelled to East Beirut to see Mr. Habib for the first time in several days.

PLO on full alert for Israeli attack

AMMAN (Petra) — Reports and information reaching the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) indicate that Israel is preparing for an all-out assault on West Beirut, according to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He said in a message to the Palestinian fighters in the city that in view of the situation they should be on full alert and take all measures and preparations to confront the Israeli attack. Mr. Arafat's message was distributed by the PLO office in Amman.

ers in Beirut would go if an agreement for their withdrawal was reached.

The PLO has agreed in principle to withdraw, as demanded by Israel, but the peace effort founders when Syria said it would not accept the fighters on its territory, a solution keenly sought by the negotiators.

Special U.S. peace envoy Philip Habib, the key link with Israel, Saturday met Lebanese government chiefs, who in turn are in

Mr. Kimche will presumably report back to the Israeli cabinet at its weekly meeting Sunday on whether the talks offer any real signs of progress.

As negotiators discussed the PLO's suggestion for an interim withdrawal, it was still being suggested here that Syria's refusal to accept the fighters could be altered.

The White House has

(Continued on page 31)

Reagan replies to Assad's message

U.S. 'exerting efforts to reduce Palestinian suffering in Lebanon'

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad has told Syrian President that he is trying hard to reduce the suffering of the Palestinian people, it was officially announced here Saturday.

State-controlled Damascus Radio said Mr. Reagan was responding to greetings from President Assad for U.S. Independence Day.

According to the Arabic broadcast version, the U.S. leader said: "I know that this is a time of special concern for Syria in view of the tragic events which have taken place in Lebanon."

He added that his special envoy, Philip Habib, was working continuously to stop the fighting, avert further loss of life and help find a peaceful solution to the Israeli siege of West Beirut.

"I can affirm that these efforts will continue and that our aim will remain the establishment of a strong Lebanese government able to exercise full sovereignty over all

its territory," he said.

"We also have in mind the ordeal of the Palestinian people and are exerting major efforts to alleviate the Palestinians' suffering."

In his message to President Reagan, President Assad said he hoped the U.S. leader would adopt towards the Israeli invasion of Lebanon an attitude consistent with U.S. commitments as a permanent member of the Security Council, and with the genuine interests of the American people.

U.S. Independence Day had come at a time when the whole world was preoccupied with Israel's invasion of a sovereign state which was a member of the Arab League and the United Nations, President Assad said.

"It is also preoccupied with the extermination war launched by Israel against the Palestinian people struggling for their rights," he added.

Mr. Qasem continued that "in view of the grave danger underlying the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the siege of West Beirut and the need to mobilise all efforts" to counter it, Jordan called for efforts to persuade Iran to stop its aggression on Iraq.

Mr. Qasem said Jordan called on the Non-Aligned Movement to urge Iran to comply with Security Council Resolution 514 as a first step to enable Iraq to direct its potential to support the Lebanese and Palestinian people against the Israeli schemes.

"If Iran continued with its war against Iraq in this critical situation, then it can be argued that the Iranian aggression was meant to coincide with the Israeli aggression on Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance and both aggression aims at same goals," Mr. Qasem said.

It then has to be approved by the ruling five-man National Security Council before it is put to the country in a referendum.

The draft sanctions strikes by workers as well as employers' lock-outs, but bans them if they are for a political purpose.

A powerful nine-man body, a state supervisory council, would supervise all public enterprises and institutions, including trade unions and welfare organisations.

Turkey presents draft constitution

ANKARA (R) — Turkey took a step on the road back to democracy Saturday when a draft constitution, which officials said provided for strong presidential powers, was presented to the consultative assembly.

The chairman of the constitutional committee, Orhan Aldikaci, told a press conference that the draft was aimed at preventing any recurrence of conditions leading to a military coup on Sept. 12, 1980, which brought the present regime of Gen. Kenan Evren to power.

A president under the new constitution would be able to dissolve

parliament "if he deems necessary," Mr. Aldikaci said.

He would also be able to declare a state of emergency, ratify or veto government decrees, partly or wholly reject legislation and could take all necessary precautionary measures in times of extreme crisis, according to a copy of the draft distributed to the press.

The new president, widely expected to be Gen. Evren following Turkey's scheduled return to democracy in 1984, would be elected by the National Assembly for a seven-year term.

The draft constitution will be debated by the consultative assembly, a quasi-parliamentary body set up after the coup when the old Turkish constitution was abolished.

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Somalia reports renewed clashes

NAIROBI (R) — Fighting appeared to be continuing along Somalia's border with Ethiopia Saturday despite Somalia's assertion that it has beaten back an invasion force after two weeks of fighting.

The official Somali News Agency said Somali gunners Saturday shot down one of eight Soviet-made MiG fighters which attacked Galkayo, capital of the central Mudug region where much of the fighting has taken place. The agency did not mention any fighting on the ground.

Somalia says that the invasion force is made up of Ethiopian

troops, but the Addis Ababa government says only Somalis rebels fighting President Mohammad Siad Barre's government are involved.

The Somali Democratic Salvation Front (SDSF) said in a telex to Reuters in Nairobi Saturday that its forces had consolidated positions at border towns it claimed to have captured.

Friday Somali Radio quoted President Siad Barre as telling security chiefs on Thursday night that the invaders had been dealt a humiliating defeat and had been repulsed.

It did not say in what region the



Qasem returns from Nicosia

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem returned here Saturday after attending an extraordinary meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement's coordination bureau which concluded in Nicosia.

Mr. Qasem told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that in an official speech at the meeting and in contacts with members of the movement, Jordan stressed that Israel's invasion of Lebanon and siege of West Beirut and its attempt to eliminate the Palestinian resistance movement are part of the Israeli policy of aggression and expansion aimed at securing the occupation and annexation of Arab territories and imposing Israeli control over the region under the pretext of the concept of Israel's security.

Mr. Qasem continued that "in view of the grave danger underlying the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the siege of West Beirut and the need to mobilise all efforts" to counter it, Jordan called for efforts to persuade Iran to stop its aggression on Iraq.

Mr. Qasem said Jordan called on the Non-Aligned Movement to urge Iran to comply with Security Council Resolution 514 as a first step to enable Iraq to direct its potential to support the Lebanese and Palestinian people against the Israeli schemes.

"If Iran continued with its war against Iraq in this critical situation, then it can be argued that the Iranian aggression was meant to coincide with the Israeli aggression on Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance and both aggression aims at same goals," Mr. Qasem said.

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Hussein cables good wishes to Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent Iraqi President Saddam Hussein a cable congratulating him, to King Hussein's name and on behalf of the Jordanian government and people, on the occasion of Iraq's National Day which "takes place at a time when the great Iraqi people and the valiant Iraqi army are confronting the Iranian aggression on Iraqi territories and rights and sovereignty, and on the whole of the Arab Nation."

King Hussein stressed Jordan's support for and stand by Iraq, "praying God to grant our brothers the victory they seek."

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Sudan joins call for Arab summit

CAIRO (R) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri was Saturday quoted as saying that he supported Egypt's call for an Arab summit to discuss the Lebanese conflict.

"This is a last appeal to the Arab leaders to unite their efforts and map out a joint strategy," he told the official Middle East News Agency (MENA).

President Hosni Mubarak has called for the summit on Thursday to also discuss the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq and the Ethiopian-Somali dispute.

"I am thinking of the immediate withdrawal by the Western world of all financial and military aid for Israel until Israel becomes more reasonable."

Mr. Moellermann said he believed the eight-point peace plan proposed by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia should be seriously

discussed at an Arab summit.

But he said it was very difficult in the current situation... of (Israeli) Prime Minister (Menachem) Begin's aggressive policies" to persuade the Arabs and Palestinians to accept such far-reaching suggestions.

He said PLO leader Yasser Arafat was prepared to give formal recognition to Israel.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FDP, who returned from a visit to Jordan and Egypt on Thursday, said Friday that the European community was interested in working towards a common Western position over Lebanon with the United States.

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq says Iranians trapped near Basra

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq said Saturday that battles were raging near its southern city of Basra after Iranian forces launched their third assault in a week on Iraqi positions.

A statement by the Iraqi high command said the Iranians, who started their push Friday night, had now been surrounded and an Iraqi counter-attack had begun.

"In the framework of an organised plan, our armed forces lured the attacking Khomeini clique forces into a certain area of Iraqi territory in order to encircle them and destroy them," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted the statement as saying.

Baghdad said that the initial Iranian invasion last Tuesday penetrated 10 kilometres into Iraqi territory but that the attackers were later thrown back across the border.

In Washington, a U.S. official told reporters before the latest Iranian assault began that there appeared to be heavy fighting going on between forces approximately 100,000-strong on each side.

But he said there was no major Iranian penetration into Iraqi territory.

As the armies fought, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein told his people that a summit conference of the Non-Aligned Movement scheduled to be held in Baghdad on Sept. 6 would take place despite the war.

"The banner and radiant flame of the principles of non-alignment will be raised in Baghdad," the president declared in a speech marking the 14th anniversary of the revolution which brought the Baath Party to power in Iraq.

Diplomats said that three years ago, when Mr. Hussein became president, he was looking forward to the 1982 summit as the event that would crown his efforts to become a major force in Arab and international politics.

Prisoners and casualties

Saturday's Iraqi high command

(Continued on page 3)

Baghdad commemorates revolution

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Despite the latest battles between Iraq and Iran, the residents of Baghdad concentrated Saturday on celebrating the anniversary of the revolution which brought the Baath Party to power 14 years ago.</

Ramadan: A month to purify souls

By Riyad Ahmad
Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN — Doing business during Ramadan in Jordan can be an extremely difficult job for citizens, visitors and foreign businessmen, according to a well informed Jordanian.

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim lunar calendar, is the month when all Muslims should fast by abstaining from food, drink, and tobacco from the hours of dawn till sunset. This abstinance, according to *hadith*, Muhammad's teachings, should be extended to include all forms of behaviour.

Of course Islam made exceptions for people who are physically incapable of fasting which includes the sick, the elderly, the traveller (a distance longer than 10 kilometres), the soldier at war and the pregnant woman (or shortly after she has given birth). These people can eat as normal and fast the same number of days later, after the cause has gone; if the cause (like a chronic illness) prevents fasting at any time, the Muslim can make up for it either by feeding a needy person a number of meals equivalent to the number of fasting days missed, or by feeding one meal to a number of needy people equivalent to the

number of fasting days missed. The object of this is to purify the soul, to develop the stamina to work and produce despite the discomfort of hunger and thirst, and through this discomfort, to develop greater compassion with the poor.

Far from this ideal, many public and private sector employees "look at Ramadan as a period of relaxation during which they walk away the office hours chafing with one another despite the fact that working hours are reduced during Ramadan to a total of five effective hours," according to the same source.

He put forward several arguments to vindicate his point of view. In the public sector, for instance, there is a common tendency among government employees to do crossword puzzles in their offices despite strict regulations forbidding such malpractices. As a matter of fact, this trend is more obvious during Ramadan.

When asked about the social life during Ramadan he explained that social life in Ramadan "is also different from normal". This year, for example, Ramadan, came in summer and people find it difficult to practise their normal activities. Everything stops till after breakfast when people go back to their

everyday pursuits of work or leisure. Some of them for instance, walk in the streets or sometimes go to recreation areas. However, some people after eating their fill, either go downtown to shop or pay visits to relatives and friends.

Some people on the other hand stay at home and watch TV programmes which are normally selected to cope with the spirit of the religious duty of fasting.

In response to a question about the reason behind the sharp drop in the number of those who fast especially among the young, he told the Jordan Times that this mainly stemmed from the fact that it is usually hard for the young to abstain from food, and pleasures all day long in the hope that this might benefit them on the long run. Moreover, young people usually believe that religious duties and practices such as fasting are restricted to the old.

An obvious feature of Ramadan, he added, is that the number of beggars, either needy or professionals increases enormously which in turn gives "a false and corrupted image" of our social life.

The outlook towards Ramadan may be undergoing a "critical change".

RSS director signs scientific exchange agreement in USSR

JORDAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Soviet academy of sciences have signed an agreement on scientific cooperation, the exchange of expertise and research on developing solar energy for various applications. RSS Director-General Albert Butros announced here Saturday.

He was speaking upon returning from a visit to the Soviet Union that lasted several days.

Under the agreement, he said the two sides will exchange visits by scientific delegations, specialists and researchers to conduct joint research projects in both countries. Dr. Butros said he also signed an action programme attached to the agreement which provides for scientific cooperation with the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan. This programme includes two joint applications on solar energy, desalination of sea water and water-pumping operations.

Dr. Butros added. He said

that the three-year renewable agreement will be put into force at the start of 1983.

While in the Soviet Union, Dr. Butros also took part in a conference on urgent problems facing Asia.



RSS Director-General Albert Butros

Prince Hassan meets Pym, Hurd during London visit

LONDON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Friday received at his residence in London British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Douglas Hurd. The two sides discussed Middle East issues, particularly the Israeli aggression on Lebanon and the Iranian aggression on Iraq.

Prince Hassan called on the British Government to do its best to ensure a complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions and in compliance with the international will which clearly condemned the aggression and sympathised with the Lebanese and the Palestinian people.

The Crown Prince stressed the need to clearly deal with the roots of the tension in the region by con-

centrating on finding a just and comprehensive settlement for the Middle East issue which would secure the right of the Palestinian people to determine their future and to establish their state on Palestinian soil.

This matter, the Prince added, necessitates the Palestine Liberation Organisation's full participation in the efforts aimed at establishing a just and comprehensive peace.

Prince Hassan also stressed that the Iranian aggression on Iraq constitutes a new stage of challenging the Arab Nation and increases the tension in the region. He pointed out that the international community expressed its desire to end the war and to give the United Nations secretary-general the chance to contain the crisis and to provide a final solution.

Prince Hassan expressed the hope that international efforts would unite to end the fighting and to enable Iraq to obtain its just historical rights.



Prince Hassan

Ministry warns against illegal foreign labour

JORDAN (Petra) — The Interior Ministry has sent memoranda to various ministries and government departments cautioning them against employing foreign labour without abiding by ministry regulations and the Foreign Workers Law.

The ministry said that a number of departments have been employing foreign workers in Jordan

without heeding the provisions of the Foreign Workers Law and regulations for issuing work and residence permits to aliens, something which is considered a violation of laws and results in the imposition of fines on such workers.

Attached to the memoranda were regulations governing the employment of foreigners in the country.

University of Jordan to take part in Oxford seminar

JORDAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will take part in a seminar of Arab studies which is due to open at Oxford University in Britain on Tuesday.

Participants in the three-day

seminar will discuss subjects dealing with history, civilisation and antiquities in addition to other studies on the Arabian Peninsula.

Dr. Khaled Karaki from the university's Faculty of Arts will attend the seminar.

Athens mayor declares support for Palestinian cause in letter to Ajlouni

JORDAN (Petra) — Athens Municipal Council has allocated one million drachmas for the relief of victims in Lebanon and will sponsor and support any activity by Athenians against Israel's invasion of that country. This came in a letter sent to Amman Mayor Isam Ajlouni by Athens Mayor who said that the council has authorised him to carry out this decision and to inform other European municipalities of the measures taken in this respect.

The Athenian Municipal Council has emphasised its total support for the Lebanese people and the Palestinian fighters in their just struggle which, it is hoped, will be crowned with victory, the message said.

According to the message, the council strongly condemned Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its barbaric attack on the Palestinian people, and called for an immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

In commenting on the message, Mayor Ajlouni praised Athens Municipal Council and said he conveyed the message to Amman Municipal Council whose members voiced their pride in and appreciation for this stand.

The council will shortly send a reply to Athens Municipal Council, Mr. Ajlouni said.

Jordan donates \$1/4m in aid for Lebanon

JORDAN (Petra) — Jordan has transferred \$250,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva to help in relief operations for victims of Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Finance Minister Salem Masa'leh announced Saturday.

He said that the sum constitutes part of the contributions collected

from Jordanian individuals and institutions to help relieve the Palestinian and Lebanese people in Lebanon.

The contributions are being collected by a special ministerial committee formed by the prime minister following Israel's invasion.

Jordan's ambassador meets Tunisian labour minister

JORDAN (Petra) — Jordan's Ambassador Nabil Al Nimir met here Saturday with Tunisian Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Mohammad Al Nasser.

They reviewed labour-related affairs and cooperation between Jordan and Tunisia in the bilateral exchange of expertise and visits by specialists in labour affairs.

JORDAN (Petra) — Yarmouk University will participate in an international conference on social development which will open in Baltimore, USA Sunday.

The conference will discuss several working papers and research studies on social development to be presented by participants to the 10-day conference, according to the director of the university's Department of Economics who will take part in the conference.

He said he will submit a working paper to the conference dealing with economic experience in developing nations.

Jordanian industrialists to visit Denmark next month

JORDAN (Petra) — A team representing the Jordanian industrial sector will visit Denmark towards the end of next month for a tour of industrial organisations.

The team will hold talks with Danish officials and businessmen on the possibility of launching joint Jordanian-Danish industrial ventures in Jordan and on ways of further bolstering bilateral economic cooperation.

The Amman Chamber of Industry has called team members for a meeting early next month to discuss ways of making this visit a success.

Municipality pest fighting director ends visit to Britain

JORDAN (Petra) — Dr. Adnan Abdul Majid who heads Amman Municipality's Department for Combating Rodents and Insects returned to Amman Saturday at the end of a two week visit to Britain.

He toured British organisations dealing with preventive medicine and combating insects and rodents, and discussed with them cooperation in combating these pests in Amman. Dr. Abdul Majid also visited an agricultural fair held in London recently and discussed similar topics with its organisers.

Jordan not to attend Tunis children's summer camp

JORDAN (Petra) — The Education Ministry has apologised for not being able to participate in the summer camp activities which will begin in Tunis on July 25 because of the current conditions in the Arab homeland resulting from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The 20-day summer camp is organised every year according to the agreement on the exchange of

the Jordanian and Tunisian youth concluded between the two countries with the aim of providing children from the age of seven to 14 with the opportunity to carry out recreational activities and educational contests. The apology came in a memo which the Education Ministry sent to the national organisation of summer resorts and tours in Tunisia.

Continued from page 1

Beirut negotiations inch forward

AMMAN (Petra) — The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for the support of the steadfastness of occupied land citizens met Thursday to review the situation in the occupied lands and the Israeli practices against citizens and national establishments.

The committee decided to con-

clude its meetings in order to

adopt the required steps for sup-

porting the citizens' steadfastness

and their struggle to confront occu-

pation authorities' plans in the

occupied territories.

The committee praised Arab

workers who refused to work at

enemy establishments in solidarity

with Palestinian and Lebanese

fighters confronting the Zionist

invaders. The committee decided

to allocate financial com-

mitments to the PLO.

Political sources in Beirut said

they felt that the fact that the

ministers would see the president

himself indicated that the U.S. still

held out hopes of achieving a

breakthrough based on agree-

ment between Syria and other Arab countries

in PLO fighters.

In the meantime, Palestinian

sources said the PLO might even

consider offering to remain in

Lebanon disarmed if the Syrians

continued to refuse to be hos-

piters.

However, the latest round of

talks over the proposal for a

permanent PLO withdrawal could

all come to nothing, as have pre-

vious ideas over the past month, if

Israel insists that the PLO

leave Lebanon.

Lebanese leftists, loosely allied

with the PLO, fear domination by

right-wing factions if the Pales-

tinian pull out.

The leader of the Druze minor-

ity, Walid Junblat, met the leader

of the right-wing Falangist militia,

Bashir Gemayel, to discuss the

issue. Political sources said they

discussed the idea of a gov-

ernment of national unity to avert

factional fighting.

West Beirut was quiet, although

the Israeli military said com-

mandos had violated the truce by

firing on troop positions around

the city's southern suburbs.

Most non-aligned countries have no diplomatic relations with Israel, and delegates at the Nicosia conference conceded that the chances of U.N. punishment of Israel were next to none in view of U.S. opposition.

The conference sources quoted the draft communiqué as repeating earlier non-aligned statements that the U.N. secretary-general should launch a fresh initiative for a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Delegates said this referred parti-

cularly to France, which has also

been engaged in efforts to find a

solution to the critical situation in Lebanon.

"No negotiations or any other

steps, in the current situation or otherwise, must take place without the full and equal participation of the PLO, as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," the draft said.

It called upon all countries to

refrain from giving Israel "any military, material or other support which would allow it to persist in its aggressive, inhuman and expansionary policy."

The draft said: "The ministers welcomed the positive and encouraging attitude taken by a number of member states of the European Economic Community in relation to the latest developments in Lebanon."

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solution to the critical situation in Lebanon.

Soviets in dilemma over hunger strikers seeking to emigrate

By Richard Balmforth
Reuter

MOSCOW—Squeezed in behind his desk under a portrait of state founder Vladimir Lenin, emigration official Sergei Fadeyev outlined the reasons why Yuri Balovlenkov and Sergei Petrov had been denied permission to emigrate.

The two men, who seek to join their American wives in the United States, could not go, he said, because state security was involved.

Furthermore, they had had contacts with Western reporters and U.S. diplomats which represented direct interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs, Mr. Fadeyev said.

But he made no reference to what made their cases unusual. Both men have resorted to a hunger strike—a weapon which would-be Soviet emigres are

wielding more and more to bring pressure on Soviet authorities.

Food shortages going back centuries have given the word "hunger" traditionally more emotional impact in the Soviet Union than in the West.

The hastily-convened press conference by Mr. Fadeyev at Moscow's visa and emigration headquarters, unusual by Moscow's standards in both timing and venue, was proof that the authorities are in a dilemma over how to stem a growing tide of hunger strikers.

At the same time, the hunger strikes have focused renewed attention on the Soviet Union's record on emigration, which Western emigration agencies say is at its lowest level for 10 years.

First to follow the Sakharov's was Inna Lavrova, a Soviet woman who had been trying for the past four years to join her French fiance.

Mrs. Lavrova, 43, took to her high-rise Moscow apartment and for a month sipped only mineral water. Soviet authorities told her

sident scene in the Soviet Union believe the trend for the current wave of hunger strikes was set last December by Nobel Peace Prize winner Andrei Sakharov.

From the Volga town of Gorky where he lives in exile, the 60-year-old physicist and his wife, Yelena Bonner, launched a hunger strike to force authorities to allow their daughter-in-law to join her fiance in the United States.

After world-wide publicity to the case, Soviet authorities decided to cut their losses and allow Liza Alexeyeva to leave, setting a precedent not lost on Soviet citizens in a similar position.

The group was founded in November, 1980, and individuals in it had been campaigning for years to join wives and husbands in the West.

Iosif Kiblitsky, Andrei Frolov, Tatyana Lozansky, Tatyana Azure, Marija Jurgutiene and Mr. Balovlenkov based their appeals unsuccessfully on the 1975 East-West Helsinki agreements.

On April 2, the six started a 10-day hunger strike. When this drew no response from the authorities, they began a fast to the death on May 10.

The couple were married in Moscow and she left for the West with her teenage daughter several days later in late February. Her hunger strike lasted 36 days.

Then in April, three men and three women, members of the self-styled "divided families group", announced they were taking similar action.

The group was founded in November, 1980, and individuals in it had been campaigning for years to join wives and husbands in the West.

Iosif Kiblitsky, Andrei Frolov, Tatyana Lozansky, Tatyana Azure, Marija Jurgutiene and Mr. Balovlenkov based their appeals unsuccessfully on the 1975 East-West Helsinki agreements.

On April 2, the six started a 10-day hunger strike. When this drew no response from the authorities, they began a fast to the death on May 10.

she would never be allowed to leave, then suddenly allowed her fiance to visit her in the Soviet Union.

Mr. Frolov, a 51-year-old journalist married to an American schoolteacher, was handed an exit visa on July 2. He had earlier ended his fast after 36 days when he was advised that his health was seriously endangered.

Next came Mrs. Lozansky and Mrs. Azure. Mrs. Lozansky, daughter of a high-ranking general in the Soviet civil defence apparatus, had divorced her husband, Edward, in 1975 to allow him to emigrate with the idea of joining her later.

She began her hunger strike after persistent refusal by authorities to let her go, but called it off after her father assured her he would intercede for her to be allowed to go.

Mrs. Azure, a 30-year-old phy-

sicist who married her French husband in 1979, resumed eating on June 2 after being told she could re-apply for emigration, a sign which she interpreted optimistically.

Mr. Kiblitsky, a 36-year-old journalist married to a West German schoolteacher, was handed an exit visa on July 2. He had earlier ended his fast after 36 days when he was advised that his health was seriously endangered.

One exception to the pattern of success is Mrs. Jurgutiene. Married to a Soviet defector, she returned to her native Lithuania in June, believing she would be allowed to emigrate. No-one has heard from her since.

Mr. Balovlenkov ended his fast on June 21, the day he says he was promised a visa to go. Authorities deny this and he began another hunger strike on July 5.

Mrs. Petrov, a freelance photographer not linked to the "divided families group", had meanwhile begun a water-only fast on June 2 to be allowed to rejoin his wife, a law student in North Carolina.

Officially, opposition to their departure is that state security is involved, a reference apparently to Mr. Balovlenkov's former job as a computer programmer and Mr. Petrov's employment in a scientific research institute six years ago.

But Moscow's dilemma goes deeper than that.

Hunger strikes are regarded in the Soviet Union as Western phenomena, the last resort of a Western citizens struggling against the blows dealt him by an uncaring capitalist society and the cruelty of "imperialism".

When Irish Republican guerrilla Bobby Sands died on hunger strike in May, 1981, after a 66-day hunger strike, the affair was given prominent treatment in the Soviet press.

Newspapers condemned the "inhuman policy" of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government and Sands was described as a heroic fighter for civil rights.

Some diplomats say the Soviet authorities are embarrassed by the spectacle of Soviet citizens starving themselves to death just so they can leave the Soviet Union.

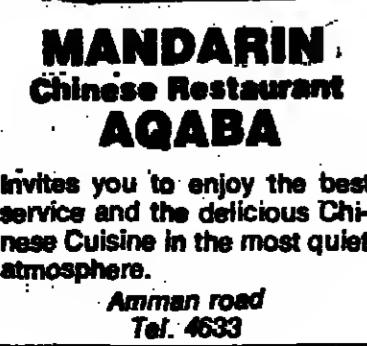
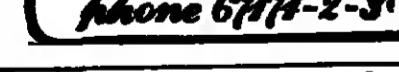
The wave of hunger strikes has brought fresh attention to bear on the present low level of Soviet emigration which has fallen victim to East-West tension.

But diplomats mostly believe the authorities are troubled by settling a precedent.

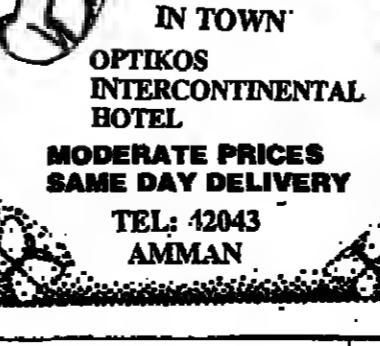
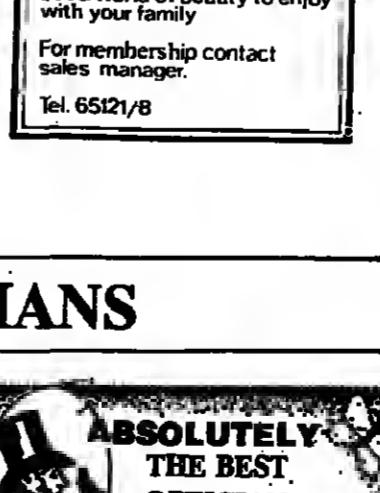
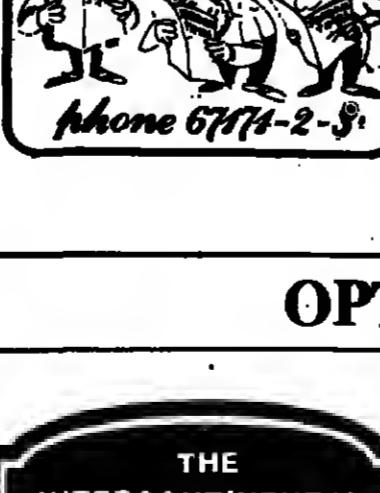
Some think they have decided that the line has to be drawn somewhere to prevent a flood of such protests, and they may have decided to start with Mr. Petrov and Mr. Balovlenkov.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

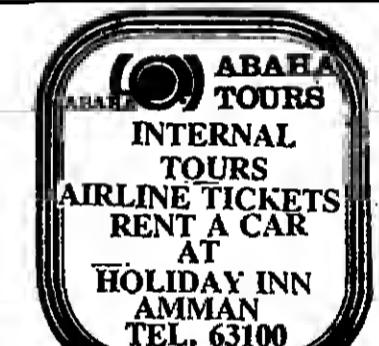
RESTAURANTS & BARS



HOTELS



TRANSPORTATION



New proposals could end U.K. railway strike

LONDON (R) — Britain's communists waited Saturday to hear whether the country's 25,000 rail drivers would call off a two-week strike and accept a peace formula worked out by trade union leaders.

British Rail (BR) has already accepted the unpublished proposals, drawn up Saturday by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) after 24 hours of continuous talks.

The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (ASLEF) said it would consider the proposals "maybe this afternoon or maybe tomorrow morning."

Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of TUC, is leading the attempt to end the dispute which has so far cost state-owned BR £100 million (\$172 million).

BR officials said they were confident that the proposals would end the strike. Mr. James Jarquart of the BR board said he was "extremely hopeful" that the rail drivers would return to work.

But ASLEF, apparently fearful that the rotas will speed up job losses in the industry and mortally

weaken the union, has consistently opposed their introduction.

The larger rail union, the National Union of Railways (NUR), has accepted the new rotas and opposes the ASLEF strike.

BR has warned that it will sack striking drivers next Wednesday and possibly close the entire network unless there is a return to work.

The stoppage is the worst crisis in the history of Britain's railways, built during the reign of Queen Victoria.

The railway system once reached almost every small town and village, but it was severely cut back in the 1960s.

If the dispute is not settled soon there is a strong possibility of further cuts in the 17,700 kilometre network.

Some transport experts believe the country no longer needs a railway system and commuters have proved reasonably adept at finding alternative modes of travel.

Algeria's energy consumption rises

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — Algeria's energy consumption almost quadrupled from four million Tons of Oil Equivalent (TOE) in 1970 to 14 million TOE in 1980. It is expected to reach 40 million TOE by 1990.

A study in the July bulletin of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) attributes the increase to sustained economic growth and rapid development of the energy infrastructure.

In 1980, natural gas was the main energy source for Algerian consumers, representing 51 per cent, followed by oil products with 39 per cent. Ten years earlier, the share of oil products was 50 per cent, while that of natural gas was 30 per cent. It is projected that in the next decade natural gas will account for as much as two-thirds of Algeria's energy needs.

Saudis scale down oil product imports

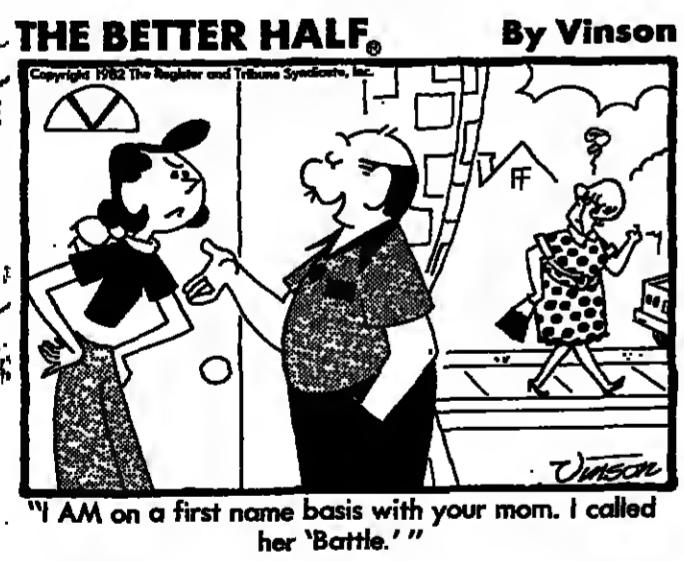
RIYADH (OPECNA) — The Jeddah Oil Refinery has signed two processing agreements under which it will supplement its own output with 130,000 b/d of refined products from Greece and Italy.

Although the Jeddah refinery is able to supply only about a third of demand in Saudi Arabia's western region, the agreements, for shorter periods and smaller volumes than previously, demonstrate a shift away from dependency on foreign refiners.

Early next year the Yanbu domestic refinery is due to come on-stream with a production capacity of 170,000 b/d.

Earlier this year Exxon Europe, Saras of Italy and Petrola of Greece were supplying the Jeddah refinery with a total of 150,000 b/d under agreements which expired in April, the Arab News reported here.

The new agreements are with Petrola, which will supply 92,000 b/d or a period of 10 months, and with Saras for 38,000 b/d.



American wholesale energy cost soars

WASHINGTON (R) — American wholesale energy costs soared 4.1 per cent in June delivering a blow to the Reagan administration's number one economic policy priority, the reduction of inflation.

The rise, the first in energy prices since December and the largest since the spring of 1981, accounted for about half of an increase of one per cent in June in U.S. wholesale prices. The Labour Department said Friday.

The increase in wholesale prices followed four months when they had been stable or falling. Their level was unchanged in May and rose only 0.1 per cent in April.

During the last 12 months, wholesale prices have risen 3.5 per cent, the department said.

They climbed at an annual rate of only 2.5 per cent during the first half of this year, compared with seven per cent in all of 1981 and 11.8 per cent in 1980, it added.

The rate of price increases has fallen steadily since President Reagan took office in January, 1981, but this development has been accompanied by a serious recession and sharp increase in unemployment.

Wholesale price changes are usually reflected eventually in costs to consumers. Friday's report suggests consumer prices, which rose one per cent in May, are likely to rise sharply for at least a few more months.

W. Germany's jobless reported main concern

PARIS (R) — Growing unemployment is the main problem facing the West German economy. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday.

In its annual review of the country, it said the supply of labour would continue to rise over the next few years, making unemployment largely a structural problem.

The OECD forecast that the percentage of people without jobs would rise from an average 6 1/4 per cent of the workforce in the second half of this year to 7 1/4 per cent in the second half of 1983.

It said that gross national product would rise at a real annual rate of 3 3/4 per cent in the second half of 1983, after allowing for inflation, compared with rises of

3 1/2 per cent in the first half and two per cent in the second half of 1982.

Exports of goods and services are likely to rise at an annual rate of 6 1/4 per cent in the second half of 1983, after 8 1/4 per cent in the first half and 7 1/2 per cent in the second half of 1982.

Imports of goods and services in the same periods are expected to increase seven per cent, six per cent and 4 1/4 per cent.

Consumer price inflation is forecast at three per cent in 1983, compared with 4 1/2 per cent in 1982 and 5.9 per cent in 1981.

USSR omits grain figure from statistical report

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union omitted the 1981 grain harvest from an annual statistical report issued Friday, indicating that the drought hit crop was seriously below target.

The report listed other agricultural production totals first published in the press five months ago, but the grain figure, which has been surrounded by secrecy, did not appear.

Unofficial Soviet and Western estimates of the crop range from 150 million to 175 million tonnes, compared with a target of almost 240 million.

A second, more detailed statistical review of the Soviet economy, due for publication in about two months.

The 1981 harvest was the third successive poor crop and early indications are that this year will also produce a substantial shortfall.

The Soviet Union usually announces its harvests, even if they are disappointing.

Meanwhile, President Reagan discussed grain sales to the Soviet Union with his national security

council in Washington Friday but a White House spokesman said no decision was being taken at the session.

Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes told reporters, Mr. Reagan would make a number of foreign policy decisions at the session, though not on the grain issue. He declined to say specifically what the other decisions concerned.

The president has a choice of negotiating a new long-term grain agreement to replace the one expiring on Sept. 30, seeking a one-year extension of the present agreement, or letting the agreement lapse.

Mr. Speakes' statement conflicted with reports Thursday from administration officials and members of Congress who met the president that a decision would emerge from the national security council meeting.

Mr. Speakes gave no reason why a decision had been put off.

Oil supply outlook seen unpredictable

LONDON (R) — Iran's new Gulf war offensive into Iraq sent tremors through the oil industry with company analysts saying the supply outlook from the region has seldom been harder to predict.

Aside from short-term uncertainty posed by the fighting, an early end to the war might lead both combatants to boost sales and renew the recent glut.

In the present over-supplied market, a complete shut-off of Iraqi oil should not be a problem, industry spokesmen said. Iraq produces less than 850,000 barrels daily and that volume could easily be made up by Saudi Arabia and others in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

It would be different if fighting involved other Gulf producers. But Western diplomats say they see no sign that the Saudis or Kuwait would fight against Iran, or that Iran would hit their oil fields in retaliation for financial support for Iraq.

Temporary shortages might result if Iraqi air strikes crippled

Iranian oil export capacity. Iran exports some two million barrels daily to Japan, East Europe and the Third World.

But industry sources said OPEC had enough spare capacity to meet that demand too, and would probably do so unless the Saudis wanted to squeeze the market and nudge the West into exacting concessions from Israel in Lebanon.

Looking further ahead to the prospect of an end to the Gulf war, predictions were harder to make, industry sources said.

That has led to confrontation with Iran. After expelling the shah, Iranian Islamic revolutionary leaders opted to pump less crude oil but to charge more for it, regardless of the effect on what they saw as the corrupt consumer societies of the West.

At the height of the market in 1980 Iran quoted up to \$6 a barrel more than the Saudis, before the Saudis opened the tap to flood the market and tame OPEC.

That has led to confrontation with Iran. After expelling the shah, Iranian Islamic revolutionary leaders opted to pump less crude oil but to charge more for it, regardless of the effect on what they saw as the corrupt consumer societies of the West.

Now, according to other OPEC

members, the Iranians are undercutting the Saudis to attract their buyers.

Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said after an OPEC meeting last weekend that if this were true, it would be no more than a legitimate use of "commercial force" in a bid to curb Saudi pre-eminence in OPEC decision-making.

The meeting in Vienna founded, Mr. Gharazi said, when Saudi Arabia refused to cut its output to accommodate rising Iranian sales within an overall OPEC ceiling, set in March to defend the reference price of \$34 a barrel.

Iran never accepted the quota assigned to it under the Saudi-backed March agreement and by June had started to exceed it, discounting its prices to sell the oil.

"Who cares a damn who gets upset — did they get upset when they unleashed their dog on us?" a senior Iranian OPEC delegate said then.

Mr. Gharazi, in comments to reporters in Vienna after the collapse of the OPEC accord as a phase "in a game which is being played out."

NEWS ANALYSIS

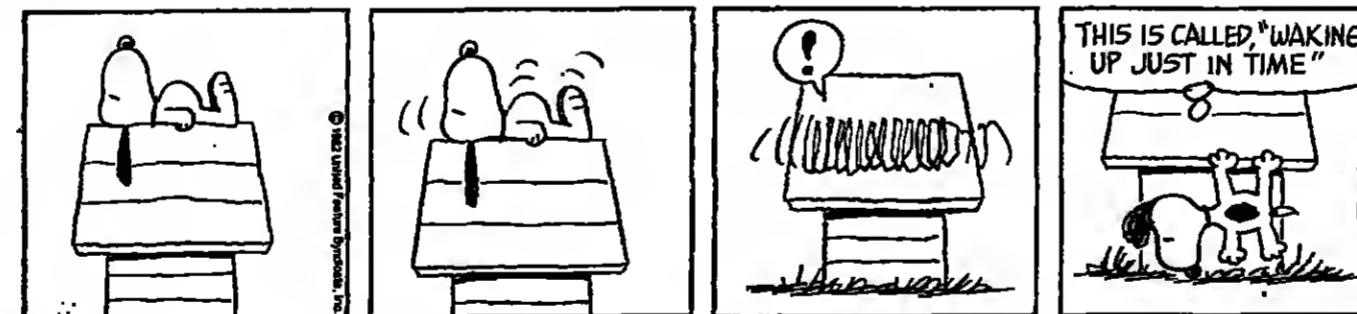
The conventional industry view has been that, whoever wins, Iran and Iraq will rush to boost war-restricted oil sales in search of cash to rebuild their shattered economies.

Within a year of the end of hostilities it is possible they could pump around four million barrels daily into the world market above their current total.

Now, according to other OPEC

members, the Iranians are undercutting the Saudis to attract their buyers.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, JULY 18, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day in which it is advisable that you think deeply of a plan of action whereby you can gain your most cherished desires. You can now solve difficult problems facing you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your intuitive faculties are working accurately today and you can easily gain your immediate aims. Use gentle tactics.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Meeting with allies and talking about how to make a new enterprise successful is wise now. Strive for harmony at home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good time to express appreciation to persons who have done favors for you. Study your tasks for the coming week.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take time to engage in recreational activities that will lift your spirit and let you forget worries.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Be sure to study the details of a new plan you have in mind. Attend a social affair that is to your liking later in the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study philosophical matters that appeal to you. Handle communications that can be helpful in business and personal life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan time to go over your financial status today and figure out another way to add to your income. Express happiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Come to the right decision concerning an important property matter. Try to increase your circle of friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Keep busy planning activities that could give you more abundance in the future. Plan new week's activities well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Know what it is you really desire in our personal life. Happiness with friends is possible in the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Attending to affairs in your community can add much to your prestige at this time. Come to the aid of a good friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study better ways to advance in your line of endeavor. Be more thoughtful of family members and increase harmony in the home.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY . . . he or she will be a very determined person, so make sure your progeny is on the right path of expression, and thus avoid going in the wrong direction. There is much perseverance in this chart, so be sure to give a good education.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

By James E. Hinsh, Jr.

ACROSS	25	Princeling	51	Handila	24	Detroit
1	Kind of	spider	52	Ennead	union	25 — plaxus
5	Two for	32 Occasional,	53	French monk	Colosseum,	e.g.
9	Old or	in Aberdeen	59	Certain	quadrilaterals	27 Trellaa
13	Knievel	33 Hasty	62	Jab	Luggage	28 Luggage
14	Trap	signature	63	Trap	Time and	again
15	After dix	36 Govt. agcy	64	anagram	Medieval	30 Medieval
16	Bataan	38 Bounds'	65	Fort Knox		

WORLD

'Hong Kong, Macao should be united with mainland'

PEKING (R) — A top Chinese leader has indicated that a clause in China's new draft constitution provides a legal basis for the reunification of China with not only Taiwan but also Hong Kong and Macao.

The New China News Agency (NCNA) quoted senior politburo member Peng Zhen as saying China's "compatriots" in Taiwan, Hong Kong and the Portuguese colony of Macao should all carry out thorough discussion of the draft, first published in April.

The relevant clause states that China may, where necessary, set up special administrative regions operating under different laws from the rest of the country, basically meaning under non-Communist systems.

The clause has clearly all along been relevant to the island of

Taiwan, which has been ruled by the Nationalist Chinese since they were defeated on the mainland by the Communists in 1949 and which Peking wants to recover.

But Mr. Peng's statement Friday made it clear that it could equally refer to the tiny South China Sea enclave of Macao and the thriving British colony on Hong Kong. Much of the latter in turn reverses to China under a lease which expires in 1997.

Peng Zhen, a former mayor of Peking purged in the Maoist Cultural Revolution, is the highest-ranking vice-chairman of the National People's Congress and therefore de facto deputy head of state.

In his statement Vice-Chairman peng said the clause provided a legal basis for China's proposals for peaceful reunification with

Taiwan issued last September, under which the Taiwanese could keep their own army and economic system in exchange for submitting to Peking's nominal rule.

He then went on to refer to the citizens of Hong Kong and Macao, saying that their views too were highly valued in China and that Peking hoped they would discuss the constitution "in a thorough way" alongside the Taiwanese.

Although Mr. Peng's statement made no direct references to the future of Hong Kong and Macao, it was clear to analysts here that the two territories had been purposely linked with Taiwan, possibly with the aim of testing public reaction before a visit to Peking by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in September.

Factional fighting changes shape of Angolan regime

LISBON (R) — Black nationalists in Angola's ruling party have apparently suffered a serious setback in a move that could alter the balance of power in the Luanda regime, according to Western diplomats in Luanda.

The position of two leading members of the black nationalist faction, Health Minister Agostinho Andre Mendes de Carvalho and former Agricultural Minister Manuel Pedro Pacavira, appears to have been considerably weakened at the last meeting of the central committee of the ruling multi-workers' party.

Angolan embassy officials in Lisbon said Mr. Pacavira had been sacked as the central committee's secretary in charge of the productive sector — a key economic post — for "serious errors, including deviations from the party's agrarian policies."

Mr. Mendes de Carvalho was

reprimanded for "showing lack of respect for President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in a speech."

Western diplomats in Luanda, contacted by telephone from Lisbon, said the public criticism seemed a departure from the usual policy of finely balancing the different factions in Angola's ruling party.

The two men have clashed with the party's pro-Soviet tendency over Luanda's support for the guerrillas fighting for the independence of neighbouring Namibia (South West Africa) and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola, according to the diplomats.

Any loss of influence by the black nationalists would strengthen the hand of the pro-Soviet faction at a time when there seems to be progress towards a Namibian settlement and Angola is under growing pressure to send the Cuban soldiers home, they added.

Hijacker let out on bail in Colombo

COLOMBO (R) — A magistrate has ordered the release of hijacker Sepala Ekanayake on bail of 500,000 rupees (\$25,000) here.

Ekanayake, a 33-year-old Sri Lankan, was remanded in prison on July 4, charged with extortion and keeping stolen cash after he hijacked an Italian airliner to Bangkok last month. He threatened to blow up the aircraft, which had 261 people aboard, and received a ransom of \$300,000.

The magistrate Friday rejected a request by the state that Ekanayake be remanded for another two weeks.

Arafat becomes centre of attention



Palestinian commando leader Yasser Arafat, seen with a refugee child Wednesday during a tour of camps, is like a movie star these days. Wherever he goes, the local and international press, covering

West Beirut only since the invading Israeli forces besieged it, follow him like a movie star and record all his movements — those that are off limits for security reasons. (A.P. wirephoto)

West deplores Soviet direct phone cuts

MOSCOW (R) — Western and neutral countries have complained to the Soviet Union about the abolition of direct telephone dialling to the West, which finally took effect Friday.

Diplomatic sources said a representative of Denmark, currently president of the European Community, called at the Soviet foreign ministry to ask for an explanation of the move.

The Danish diplomat said the abolition of direct dialling, which was first introduced into Moscow two years ago for the Olympics, would affect foreign embassies, businessmen and journalists.

The foreign ministry officials said they were unaware of the abolition, which was not officially announced, but promised a reply later.

Diplomats said neutral Austria also complained to the foreign ministry Friday and other European states might follow suit.

"This is a clear step backwards and we do not like it," one diplomat commented.

No-one was available at the Soviet communications ministry to comment on the move. Western diplomats said the cutback appeared to be a political step to reduce Soviet citizens' contacts with friends and relatives in the West.

It might have been cancelled altogether.

From Thursday, Moscow callers trying to reach Western Europe heard only a recorded voice telling them to dial the operator.

Direct calls from the West to Moscow were still possible on Friday, however, and direct dialling from Moscow to Eastern Europe appeared to be unaffected.

No-one was available at the Soviet communications ministry to comment on the move. Western diplomats said the cutback appeared to be a political step to reduce Soviet citizens' contacts with friends and relatives in the West.

Nicaragua says church sects act as fifth column for rightists

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua has said that rightists helped by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Evangelical sects working as a fifth column launched a "silent invasion" from Honduras 12 days ago.

The leftist authorities said that 100 people had died in recent fighting centred on the rugged northern provinces which they said had been infiltrated by more than 1,000 heavily-armed guerrillas.

Vice-interior Minister Luis Carrion told reporters Friday that guerrillas were still crossing the border "with the logistical and tactical support of the CIA".

"150 of them can infiltrate the country in half an hour as others pin down our frontier guards with diversionary attacks," he said. He gave no details of the fight-

ing only a few days before the third anniversary of the leftist revolution which was led by most of the current Sandinist leaders.

Both Commander Carrion and Interior Minister Tomas Borge deconsecrated foreign religious sects working in Nicaragua as "nest of counter-revolutionary activity."

Commander Borge said there were almost 100 of the sects, including Mormons and Jehovah's witnesses, active here. He said some of their pastors were on the CIA payroll or former soldiers of the late rightist dictator Anastasio Somoza.

Detectives discovered the hole during a raid in March. Mr. Green had disappeared just before Christmas 1974, after being questioned by police about alleged offences at the home of an 86-year-old woman.

He told his story to reporters Thursday, following a decision by the director of public prosecutions that no further action would be taken against him.

Mr. Green said he carved a hole in the floor with a penknife and hid because he was terrified of being found by the police and questioned again. His wife Pauline

Hidden British convict caught

WIGAN, England (R) — A man hiding from police lived for eight years in a hole two feet (60 centimetres) deep under the floorboards of his own house.

For the first two years, Norman Green, a 42-year-old married man with six children, never moved from the hole and never saw daylight or anybody except his wife.

Detectives discovered the hole during a raid in March. Mr. Green had disappeared just before Christmas 1974, after being questioned by police about alleged offences at the home of an 86-year-old woman.

He told his story to reporters Thursday, following a decision by the director of public prosecutions that no further action would be taken against him.

Mr. Green said he carved a hole in the floor with a penknife and hid because he was terrified of being found by the police and questioned again. His wife Pauline

provided food and drink and he first emerged two years later.

He looked in a mirror and found his hair was two feet (60 cms) long and grey. His front teeth had fallen out and his eyes were red. He could scarcely face sunlight and for days he could not walk.

He said: "My weight just went to seven stone (44.5 kilograms). I lay in the darkness thinking."

"I prayed: 'Please God end this nightmare.' All the time I was thinking of what Pauline and the kids were going through. It was terrible lying there listening to them talking and playing but unable to let them know I was there."

Gradually he came out of the hole more often and was introduced to his children as "Michael", their mother's friend. "They didn't recognise me as their father who had disappeared a few years ago," Mr. Green said.

South African backed guerrilla war shakes Mozambican government

By Rodney Pinder

Reuters

MAPUTO — A South African-backed guerrilla war has been stepped up inside Mozambique, shaking the government of President Samora Machel, according to Western diplomats.

Rebels have carried a campaign of killing, looting and sabotage across the impoverished countryside to within 200 kilometres of the capital, putting the old guerrilla fighters of the ruling Frelimo Party on the defensive for the first time since independence seven years ago.

The diplomats say they do not believe the Marxist government is seriously threatened yet, but say it could be if it does not wrest the initiative from the shadowy "bandos" soon.

"The problem is bigger now than it was six months ago and growing," said one senior envoy. "We don't think there is a danger to the stability of the government yet, but I would not be surprised if things were different by the end of the year."

No diplomatic missioos here doubt black African allegations that the warfare is fuelled by neighbouring South Africa, the last white redoubt on the dark continent.

S. African aid

The diplomats and Mozambicans say the Mozambique Resistance Movement (RNM) is supplied by air and sea by South Africa. Dakota transports lumber across southeastern Zimbabwe to drop guns and munitions. Patrol boats are believed to carry other material to remote Indian Ocean beaches.

South African helicopters rescued white advisers from a

rebel base overrun by government troops last November, officials say. Propaganda in support of the RNM is beamed from Voz da Africa Livre (Voice of Free Africa) in the Transvaal.

The rebel group, believed by diplomats to number between 6,000 and 10,000, was created in 1976 by the beleaguered whites of Rhodesia. They recruited blacks, who had fought for Portugal in Mozambique in order to undermine President Machel, who was providing bases for Robert Mugabe's guerrillas.

When Zimbabwe became independent in 1980 and Mr. Mugabe assumed power, the RNM was taken over by South African military intelligence, according to Western analysts in the region.

The Mozambicans and their black southern African friends accuse South Africa of trying to destabilise their neighbours to keep them economically dependent and demonstrate to its own peoples that black rule does not work.

Largely political

Diplomats have noted no strong political motivation for the RNM, merely a generalised anti-Marxist and pro-capitalism. No notable political figure has emerged as a leader.

Mozambique says the guerrillas' commander is Afonso Dhalakama, an ex-conscript in the Portuguese army who joined Frelimo forces in 1974 and was dishonourably discharged from the Mozambique army a year later for theft.

A prominent Portuguese businessman who quit Mozambique just before independence, Jorge Jardim, describes himself as European representative of the RNM and, like the group's only foreign spokesman, Evaristo Fer-

nandes, lives in Portugal. routes to the sea are the region's only alternative to South Africa, and if they fail so will SADC.

Aid projects have been attacked and foreign workers, desperately needed if Mozambique is to drag itself out of a morass of underdevelopment, have been driven off. Fifty Swedes fled into Zimbabwe last month, abandoning an important sawmill project, after a Portuguese and Mozambique were killed by rebels on the highway between Mutare and Beira.

The government is clearly worried and there are signs it is preparing to soften its Marxist ideology in an attempt to win more friends in the West for a military and political revival.

The Mozambique economy has been a disaster area since independence, when a mass exodus of Portuguese left the country illiterate and unskilled. Severe droughts and a steadily collapsing transport system have compounded the problem, creating large areas of real hunger. Food is rationed in the cities and shop windows are mostly empty.

It amounts to fertile ground for discontent and some government officials acknowledge they have been slow to react.

"Our biggest problems are our own shortcomings," said one.

President Machel has taken charge of the counter-offensive. Mozambique's war of independence has been called up again. The 850,000 people of Maputo have been promised arms to defend their city. Groups of young party militants have been made into a militia.

The government currently gets most of its military help from the Eastern Bloc. Several hundred Soviet, East German and Cuban specialists are involved in training. They have been painstakingly following the Israeli invasion into Lebanon, saying they fear it may be used as a model for a South African assault on Mozambique if nationalist guerrillas intensify their campaign in the republic, as they have pledged to do this year.

Mozambique supports the guerrillas but diplomats say they do not believe it provides them with bases.

One senior minister said privately: "South Africa knows well that the day they do that — create a new dimension — Mozambique is prepared to go to war." Mitterrand to visit Greece in September PARIS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand will make a two-day official visit to Greece in September. French presidential aides said Friday. The precise dates would be given a fortnight before the visit, they said. His talks in Athens are expected to cover Greece's problems within the European Community as well as the situation in the Mediterranean, defence matters and the Arab-Israeli crisis.

Basques claim credit for bomb attack

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (R) — Basque separatist extremists claimed responsibility for planting 21 bombs which damaged a number of public buildings and injured one man in the Basque country Friday night, a communiqué issued to Basque newspapers said Saturday.

The political-military wing (ETA P-M) of the divided separatist group ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) said it planted the bombs which hit the Basque cities of San Sebastian, Bilbao and Vitoria and the city of Pamplona, claimed by separatists as part of the Basque country.

About 20 kilogrammes of explosives were used in the time-bombs, according to the directorate of security in Madrid.

San Sebastian and Bilbao had been hardest hit, with seven blasts each, the directorate said.

Warnings were given only in San Sebastian, where three other devices were defused, police said. Only one man, in Pamplona, had been slightly injured.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Spain to sell military hardware to Egypt

MADRID (R) — Spain is negotiating a billion-dollar sale to Egypt of lorries, armoured vehicles and ships, defence industry sources said here Friday. They said the quantities of equipment and price were still under negotiation between the manufacturers, the state holding company ENI and the Egyptian government but the total figure was likely to be around \$1 billion. Authoritative sources at the vehicle manufacturer ENASA said their share of the deal could be around \$700 million for about 3,000 cross-country vehicles including 600 armoured ones. ENASA already has a \$300 million contract with Egypt for delivery of 7,500 lorries over the next three years. The sources could not say when the deal would be signed and added that Egypt's requirements could change within its financial limits.

U.S. envoy suggests where Lebanon aid should go

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Most of the \$65 million designation by the United States for Lebanon relief work are likely to be used for repair of severe damage to essential public facilities such as power, water supply, city streets and sanitation facilities, according to Mr. Peter McPherson who testified before the House of Representatives committee on foreign affairs July 15. AID (Agency for International Development) administrator McPherson, as President Reagan's special representative for emergency relief to Lebanon, just completed a fact-finding tour which took him through South Lebanon, including the cities of Damour, Tyre, and Sidon. He commended the efforts of international organisations, along with United States private voluntary agencies — many of which received some U.S. disaster relief funds — for what he termed "a highly successful international relief effort to administer to the emergency life-threatening needs of the victims of the fighting."

While Mr. McPherson declined to give a precise estimate of the casualties involved, he emphasised that "We don't have a major problem of facilities and personnel for treating injured victims of the fighting." Zia arrives for hajj

BAHRAIN (R) — Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq arrived in Saudi Arabia Saturday for pilgrimage at Mecca, Islam's holiest shrine, the official Saudi press agency said. The Pakistani leader is a frequent visitor to the kingdom, which is a major financial and political supporter of Pakistan. Gen. Zia was in Saudi Arabia to offer condolences on King Khalid's death a month ago, when he also performed pilgrimage at Mecca.

Pakistan demands withdrawal of foreign troops from Somalia

KARACHI (Agencies) — The government of Pakistan has expressed serious concern over the reported foreign armed intervention in Somalia. A statement issued in Islamabad expressed deep concern of the government and people of Pakistan over the armed attack which violated the territorial integrity of an Islamic and non-aligned country. The statement underlined Pakistan's firm opposition to the use of force in inter-state relations and contained a call for immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Somalian territory, and an end to hostilities.

Mitterrand to visit Greece in September